

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 822

By Bell

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Lula Mae Bell Tillman on the celebration of her 105th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Lula Mae Bell Tillman will celebrate her 105th birthday on February 20, 2010, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, born on February 20, 1905, in Decherd, Tennessee, Lula Mae Bell Tillman is a 1924 graduate of Franklin County High School and attended State Normal School in Murfreesboro, later teaching school for two years in Sherwood, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, marrying her high school sweetheart, Robert Leon Tillman, in June 1926, Mrs. Tillman relocated to Hill City, Tennessee, which is located in the Chattanooga vicinity, and resided there with her husband as a homemaker for the next seventy-five years; and

WHEREAS, after World War II, Robert and Lula Mae Bell Tillman went into the dry cleaning business, owning and operating Tillman's Ideal Cleaners at 101 Frazier Avenue for the next twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the Chattanooga community who became an American Red Cross Gray Ladies Volunteer in 1952, Lula Mae Belle Tillman is a charter member and past president of the North Chattanooga Garden Club as well as a former member and officer of local area Parent Teacher Associations; and

WHEREAS, a vivacious and gracious lady who has always sought to help those in need, Lula Mae Bell Tillman was honored in 1996 as Chattanooga's Woman of Distinction, which is an

award presented to honor women "who set themselves apart through civic, philanthropic, professional, church and family activities"; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, at the age of 94, she was specially recognized by Erlanger Medical Center as their volunteer with the most years of service, having volunteered for six and seven hour weekly shifts for nearly five decades and rightfully earning the deep admiration and respect of the physicians and staff of the facility; and

WHEREAS, a longtime member of the Methodist Church, Mrs. Tillman faithfully attended Forest Avenue Methodist and First-Centenary United Methodist churches in Chattanooga for more than seventy five years, which she served in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration and beloved mother, Lula Mae Belle Tillman enjoys the loving support of her devoted family of two daughters and sons-in-law, Peggy Tillman Wallace and Fitzhugh Lee Wallace and Bobbie Tillman Sneed and E. Baxter Sneed; six grandchildren and their spouses, Hugh and Margaret Wallace, John and Lorrie Wallace, Margaret and Tony Heard, Wynn Sneed, Cindy and Larry Rigsby, and Peggy and Scott Slaten; twelve great-grandchildren, Joseph Wallace, Christina Thomas, Darren Thomas, Laura Wallace, Robert Heard, Emily Heard, Allison Heard, Bobbie Rigsby, Tadd Rigsby, Josh Slaten, Allie Slaten, and Hannah Slaten; along with two great-great-grandchildren, five nieces, four nephews and extended family members; and

WHEREAS, now residing at Lakebridge Life Care Center in Johnson City, Tennessee, near her daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Lee Wallace, Mrs. Tillman is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events, as her health permits; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Lula Mae Bell Tillman on the celebration of her 105th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.